

PEEL'S PRINCIPLES OF POLICING

1. The basic mission for which the police exist is to **prevent crime and disorder** as an alternative to the repression of crime and disorder by military force and severity of legal punishment.
2. The ability of the police to perform their duties is **dependent upon public approval** of police existence, actions, behavior, and the ability of the police to secure and maintain the public respect.
3. The police must secure the **willing cooperation of the public** in voluntary observance of the law to be able to secure and maintain the public respect.
4. The public's **cooperation reduces the need for the use of physical force** in achieving police objectives.
5. The police seek and preserve public favor, not by catering to public opinion, but by constantly demonstrating **absolutely impartial service to the law**, in complete independence of policy, **without regard for the justice or injustice** of the substance of individual law, by ready offering of **service and friendship** to all members of society **without regard to their race or social standing**, by ready exercise of **courtesy and friendly good humor**, and by ready offering of **individual sacrifice in protecting and preserving life**.
6. The police should use physical force to the extent **necessary** to secure observance to the law or restore order **only when the exercise of persuasion, advice, and warning is found to be insufficient** to achieve police objectives and to use only the **minimum degree of physical force which is necessary**.
7. The police at all times should maintain a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that the **police are the public** and that the **public are the police**. The police are just members of the public who are **paid to give full-time attention to the duties which are incumbent on every citizen** in the interest of community welfare.
8. The police should always direct their actions toward their functions and **never appear to usurp the powers of judiciary** by avenging individuals or by judging guilt or punishing the guilty.
9. The test of **police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder**, not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with them.